

STATE OF WASHINGTON

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

PO Box 47721 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7721 • (360) 407-6200 • FAX (360) 407-6215

July 8, 2008

TO: Conservation Commission Members and Friends

FROM: Mark Clark, Executive Director

RE: August 5, 2008 Farmland Preservation Task Force Tour & Interaction Dinner

August 6, 2008 Farmland Preservation Task Force Business Meeting

The Washington State Office of Farmland Preservation Task Force will conduct a tour, interaction dinner and meeting August 5 & 6, 2008 in Goldendale, Washington.

Tuesday, August 5, 2008- Farmland Preservation Tour (11 a.m.-5:30 p.m.)

Several stops relating to farmland preservation challenges and solutions are planned before a 5 p.m. conclusion back at the Goldendale Quality Inn Suites. Those who have pre-registered for the tour will board the tour bus promptly at 11:00 a.m. at:

Quality Inn & Suites 808 East Simcoe Drive Goldendale, WA 98620

Tour participants will see sites and hear presentations relating to farm and ranch preservation, including a row crop operation on a 100-year-old family farm, a major cattle ranch, an organic dairy, a cluster development and possibly other sites. Participants will hear input from local farmers and ranchers as well as descriptions of wind energy generation and the factors considered when landowners sign the long-term agreements involved. There will be information about the restrictions on agriculture within the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. The impacts of fuel prices, migrant workers, unique land zoning methods, dam de-commissioning, hay prices and changing grazing rules on public lands will all be discussed.

Tuesday, August 5, 2008- Interaction Dinner (7 p.m. - 9 p.m.)

The Task Force will hold an interaction dinner in the meeting room of Ayutla Restaurant. Everyone is welcome at 7 p.m. to interact informally with members of the Task Force. Participants can order dinner from the menu on their own if they wish.

Ayutla Restaurant 630 East Simcoe Drive Goldendale, WA 98620

Wednesday, August 6, 2008- Farmland Preservation Meeting

The Farmland Preservation Task Force will hold its regular meeting beginning at 9 a.m. at:

Goldendale Grange 228 East Darland Street Goldendale, WA 9862

If you are interested in attending the farm tour, we ask that you please reserve your spot by calling our office at (360) 407-6200 or e-mail Lori Gonzalez at lgon461@ecy.wa.gov. Reservations need to be made by Tuesday, July 29, 2008.